

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) An article for delivering a drug and a nucleic acid, the article comprising:
 - a nanoparticle forming a micelle, wherein the nanoparticle comprises a polymer having a backbone comprising a polyester;
 - a nucleic acid associated with an exterior of the micelle; and
 - a drug associated with an interior of the micelle.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The article ~~as in~~ of claim 1 wherein the nanoparticle is capable of passing through a cell membrane.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The article ~~as in~~ of claim 1 wherein the nucleic acid is DNA.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The article ~~as in~~ of claim 1 wherein the drug is a cancer drug.
- 6-7. (Cancelled)
8. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The article ~~as in~~ of claim 1 wherein the nanoparticle is stable at a concentration of greater than 5 mg/L.
9. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The article ~~as in~~ of claim 1 wherein the nanoparticle is capable of crossing the blood/brain barrier.
10. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising ~~an~~ the article of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The article ~~as in of~~ claim 1 wherein the backbone comprises tertiary amines.
12. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The article ~~as in of~~ claim 15 wherein the hydrophobic side chain comprises cholesterol.
13. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The article ~~as in of~~ claim 11 wherein the ~~polymeric~~ backbone comprises a copolymer of quaternized and non-quaternized tertiary ammonium groups.
14. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The article ~~as in of~~ claim 1 wherein the ~~polymeric~~ backbone further comprises an ether linkage.
15. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The article ~~as in of~~ claim 11 wherein at least a portion of the tertiary amines are quaternized and bound to a hydrophobic side chain.
16. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The article ~~as in of~~ claim 1 wherein the ~~polymeric~~ backbone further comprises a polyether.
- 17-43. (Cancelled)
44. (Previously Presented) A kit comprising:
 - a container including an amphoteric polymeric nanoparticle forming a micelle, wherein the polymeric nanoparticle comprises a polymer having a backbone comprising a polyester;
 - a nucleic acid associated with an exterior of the micelle;
 - a drug associated with an interior of the micelle; and
 - instructions for administering the nanoparticle to a subject.
- 45-48. (Cancelled)

49. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The kit as in of claim 44, wherein the ~~polymer backbone~~ comprises a graft co-polymer.
50. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~The article as in of claim 1, wherein the ~~polymer backbone~~ comprises an amphiphilic co-polymer.
51. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~The article as in of claim 50, wherein the amphiphilic co-polymer is a cationic amphiphilic co-polymer.
52. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~The article as in of claim 1 wherein the drug is not covalently or ionically bound to the nanoparticle.
53. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~The article as in of claim 1 wherein the drug is physically contained by the nanoparticle.
54. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~The article as in of claim 1, wherein the ~~polymer backbone~~ comprises a graft co-polymer.